

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT: (202) 586-4940

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, March 26, 2009

Obama Administration Announces Additional \$60,719,900 for Local Energy Efficiency Improvements in Virginia

Block Grants to Support Jobs, Cut Energy Bills, and Increase Energy Independence

WASHINGTON – Vice President Joe Biden and Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced plans to invest \$3.2 billion in energy efficiency and conservation projects in U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Native American tribes. This includes \$60,719,900 for state, county and city efforts in Virginia. A detailed breakdown is below.

Today's announcement builds on an investment of \$164,135,276 in Virginia weatherization and energy funding announced by the Administration on March 12th and detailed at <u>energy.gov/recovery</u>.

"These investments will save taxpayer dollars and create jobs in communities around the country," said Vice President Biden. "Local leaders will have the flexibility in how they put these resources to work – but we will hold them accountable for making the investments quickly and wisely to spur the local economy and cut energy use."

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, funded by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will provide formula grants for projects that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency.

The funding will support energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements. Other activities eligible for use of grant funds include transportation programs that conserve energy, projects to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, renewable energy installations on

government buildings, energy efficient traffic signals and street lights, deployment of Combined Heat and Power and district heating and cooling systems, and others.

To ensure accountability, the Department of Energy will provide guidance to and require grant recipients to report on the number of jobs created or retained, energy saved, renewable energy capacity installed, greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and funds leveraged. Funding is based on a formula that accounts for population and energy use.

"The Block Grants are a major investment in energy solutions that will strengthen America's economy and create jobs at the local level," said Secretary Chu. "The funding will be used for the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have – energy efficiency and conservation – which can be deployed immediately. The grants also empower local communities to make strategic investments to meet the nation's long term clean energy and climate goals."

Funding for state, city, and county governments in the state includes:

VA	Virginia Total Sum City, County, and SEO Allocations	All	\$60,719,900
VA	Virginia	State Energy Office	\$16,145,300
VA	Alexandria	City	\$1,372,800
VA	Arlington	City	\$2,085,100
VA	Blacksburg	City	\$186,900
VA	Charlottesville	City	\$195,300
VA	Chesapeake	City	\$2,046,900
VA	Danville	City	\$202,200
VA	Hampton	City	\$1,388,800
VA	Harrisonburg	City	\$206,200
VA	Leesburg	City	\$164,700
VA	Lynchburg	City	\$740,000
VA	Manassas	City	\$159,400
VA	Newport News	City	\$1,757,300
VA	Norfolk	City	\$2,451,100
VA	Portsmouth	City	\$1,002,000
VA	Richmond	City	\$2,106,200
VA	Roanoke	City	\$963,700
VA	Suffolk	City	\$741,100
VA	Virginia Beach	City	\$4,042,000
VA	Albemarle	County	\$406,000
VA	Chesterfield	County	\$2,740,100
VA	Fairfax	County	\$9,642,800
VA	Hanover	County	\$409,400
VA	Henrico	County	\$2,791,100
VA	Loudoun	County	\$2,215,600
VA	Prince William	County	\$3,226,400
VA	Roanoke	County	\$372,800

VA	Spotsylvania	County	\$474,400
VA	Stafford	County	\$484,300

More information on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program is available on http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block_grants.cfm.